Dear Scott, 1/24/97

Not only, as you say, do I not have the time, I am using this replacement machine with difficulty. My Hermes is in the shop. Wish I could get another Hermes pottable like that one!

What was in the papers about Ray's health is what his brother Jerry tells me.

I have read Bill Pepper's book and do not believe what he says. On the rifle testing, as you may or may not know, I made the case that that rifle was not used in the crime.

I do not know how dependable any testing by shooting would not be after all the shots fired in it after the assassination.

All that firing, by the FBI and more by the House assassins, was certain to alter the markings left in firing bullets.

The fimgerprints show only that Ray handled the rifle, which he said anyway. They do not show he held it where it had to be held to fire it.

I had no earlier knowledge of the state of Ray's health.

Excuse the brevity.

Best to you all,

Harold